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Her Majesties most Gracious Letter to the Parliament of Scotland.

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My Lords and Gentlemen;

AFter the great Loss these Nations, and all *Europe* have sustained, by the Death of the late *KING*, Our Royal and most Dearly Beloved Brother of ever blessed Memory, We were much encouraged upon Our entering into the Administration of the Government of that Our Ancient Kingdom, by the hope of finding in you the continuance of that *Fidelity* and Zeal of which you gave so Signal Proofs in the Reign of Our Glorious Predecessor.

It should have been Our great Satisfaction at this Our first Accession to the Crown, to have met with you in Person, That from Our own Mouth We might have given Our People full Assurance of Our sincere intentions towards their true Wellfare and Happiness. But the multiplicity of weighty and important Affairs in which We are ingadged at present, depriving Us of that opportunity, We would not on that account delay your Meeting any longer.

And that nothing may be wanting on Our part, for the satisfaction of Our Subjects, whose affection We shall alwayes look upon as Our greatest Security, and Value above all other Advantages: We give you full assurance, that We are firmly resolved to maintain and protect them in the full Possession of their Religion, Laws and *Liberties*, and of the Presbyterian Government of the Church, as at present established.

It pleased God to make the late KING the great Instrument of delivering of Our People from *Popery*, and Arbitrary *Power*, and of restoring to them their Ancient Rights and Priviledges; And through the same Divine Grace, We shall in the whole Course of Our Reign aim at nothing more than the preserving to them these Advantages, and Contribute as much as in Us lyes for their further Securitie in the enjoyment of them.

The Exorbitant power of the *French* King, threatning the Liberties of all *Europe*, and his owning the pretended *Prince of Wales*, as King of these Our Dominions, influencing also *Spain* to concurr with him in that Indignity, tending visibly to the Subversion of the Protestant Religion, and the ruine of *Our* Subjects in all that is dear to them, Have obliged Us, in pursuance of an expres Article of the Treatie entred into by the late King, and Our Allies, to declare War in this as well as *Our* other Dominions, against *France* and *Spain*, wherein We confidently expect your hearty Concurrance, and Assistance, both for the Honour and Safety of the Kingdom, not doubting, but you are affected with the same Sence of these Wrongs and Indignities, and the other Just Causes of War, as did appear in the many Loyal Addresses presented by Our Subjects upon that occasion.

 Wherefore

Wherefore being moſt aſſured of your Care and Concern in this Matter, We earneſtly Recommend to you the providing competent Supplies, for maintaining ſuch a Number of Forces, as may be neceſſary for preventing and diſappointing the Deſigns of our Enemies, and preſerving the happy Settlement you now enjoy.

The late King, Our Royal Brother, did before His Death verie earneſtly Recommend to His Parliament of *England* the conſideration of the Union of the two Kingdoms of *Scotland* and *England*, which being ſo neceſſary for the Security and Happineſs of both, We did at Our Acceſſion to the Crown, again ſeriouſly Recommend the ſame to them, and they having proceeded to Impower Us by an Act of Parliament, to name Commiſſioners to Treat of an Union, We doubt not but you will do what is neceſſary on your part, and We ſhall contribute Our utmoſt endeavours towards the accompliſhment thereof, and ſhall eſteem it Our Happineſs, to eſtabliſh the Nations on ſo ſure a Foundation.

We have Appointed Our right Truſtie, and right intirely beloved Couſin and Counſellor, *James* Duke of *Queensberry*, to be Our Commiſſioner, to repreſent Our Royal Perſon in this Seſſion of Our Parliament, being fully ſatisfied of his great Abilities and Fidelity, for diſcharging that Truſt, and no leſs perſwaded that the Proofs he hath given thereof upon the like Occaſion, will render him to you acceptable; We have fully inſtructed him with Our Mind, and have impowered him to give Our Aſſent to ſuch Laws as ſhall be propoſed for the Security of Our Subjects in all their Concerns Civil and Religious; And therefore We deſire ye may give him intire Truſt and Credit.

It will be very ſatisfying to Us, that effectual Methods be taken for promoting of Religion, Virtue and true Piety, and ſuppreſſing Vice and Immorality, for advancing and incouraging Trade, and for imploying and providing for the Poor: And ſeing now in the beginning of Our Reign, We have recommended nothing but what is for the Security and Happineſs of that Our ancient Kingdom, We hope that you will with unanimity diſpatch what comes before you: And We expect by your Prudence and Conduct, this Seſſion of Parliament ſhall be brought to ſuch a happy Concluſion, as ſhall lay the Foundation of that firm Union, and true Underſtanding betwixt Us and Our People, as is neceſſar for the happineſs of both: And ſo We bid you heartily Farewel.

Given at Our Court at St. James's *the* 15th *day of* May 1702: *and of Our Reign the First Year.*

By Her Majeſties Command,

MVSEVM
BRITAN
NICVM

Sic Subſcribitur, SEAFIELD

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